

Story Ideas

Seniors

- Advice: older and wiser, tips to freshmen, what you would have done differently, the one thing you wish you had known when you started high school
- Cars: favorite, financing, maintenance, parking spots on campus, insurance
- College vs. career
- College: applying – time and money involved, essays, visiting colleges
- Expenses of being a senior
- Favorite memories of high school
- Freshmen again: how seniors feel about being freshmen in college, last year's seniors giving advice to the new graduates
- Graduation: graduating early, taking five or more years, gifts, traditions
- Myths about the senior year: not as easy as it looks, few privileges
- Senioritis
- Test: Are you a true senior?
- 13 years: those seniors who have been in the district/school since their first day of class
- Traditions: senior ditch/skip day, homecoming float, pranks
- Turning 18: legal privileges and responsibilities

Underclass

- Backpacks: the portable personal space
- Bedroom: how messy/neat, how it's decorated, do you share or is it your own?
- Chores at home
- Class activities: junior dance, sophomore participation in homecoming
- Class rings
- Collections/hobbies
- Grounded
- Heroes and idols
- Injuries: how they happen, how they affect life at school, signing casts, getting around
- Junior high vs. high school
- Lockers: decorations, how messy or neat, what you keep in it
- Milestones: first date, kiss, job, car
- Money: allowance, baby-sitting, jobs, spending it, borrowing it
- Names and nicknames
- Never too old for toys
- Practical jokes
- School bands
- School pictures: taking them, trading
- Siblings: at same school, twins
- Student profiles
- Students who change their looks: hair, clothes, etc.
- Students who look like famous people
- Students with famous relatives
- Time: free time, finding time to study and participate in activities, spare time, time for yourself
- Turning 16
- What do you worry about?

Faculty

- Adapting to change: senior faculty members who have watched the school or community grow

- Advanced degrees: teachers who are in or have completed graduate school
- Advice: kids who seek teachers out for advice, questions they ask
- Alumni: teachers who were once students at the school, how it has changed
- Colleges: Where they went, advice for success
- Family: coaches with their kids on the team, teachers with their kids in class
- Favorite teachers' expressions
- Free-time interests/hobbies
- Most embarrassing moments
- Security guards
- Student teachers
- Teachers who coach
- Teachers with other jobs
- Teachers' pets: animals at home or in the classroom
- Travel: studying abroad, vacation spots
- What makes a good student?
- Why do you teach?

Student Life

- Amusement parks
- Announcements: homeroom, first period
- Boredom
- Community service
- Credit cards
- Cultural differences
- Dancing: styles, who asks who
- Dating: first dates, blind dates, the perfect date, why date, how to ask, what to do, transportation, who pays, ways to meet boys/girls, pickup lines, preparing for the big date, old flames, breaking up, P.D.A. (public display of affection)
- Dilemmas
- Dress codes and uniforms
- Driving: license, car, insurance, tickets, first experiences, drivers education, accidents
- Elections/political involvement
- Embarrassing moments
- Environmental awareness
- Family relationships
- Fashion and trends
- Favorites: TV shows, TV reruns, TV late night, soap operas, movies, CDs, music, books, restaurants
- Food: eating out, cafeteria, home
- Friendships: secrets, best friends, what kind of friend are you, how to look for friends, valued qualities in good friends, fighting, special things you do for each other
- Going to concerts
- Hangouts
- Holiday celebrations & traditions
- Homecoming: rallies, class competitions, theme, dress, constructing floats, shopping for the outfit, cheering, alumni, dinner before the dance, flowers
- Jobs: How to find one? Why work? How much do you make? Is it fun to work there?
- Money: How much do you spend? Where do you get it?
- Personal electronics: phones, pagers, ipods and more
- Pet peeves: as they relate to school, family, friends
- Pets
- Prom: committee work, costs, preparations, parent perspectives, catastrophes, after-prom activities

- School as a second home
- School rivalries
- School spirit
- Sibling rivalries
- Spring trips, spring break
- Student picks for: Oscars, Grammys, etc.
- Students who live on their own
- Summer's end: back-to-school shopping, football scrimmages, the last weekend
- Summer: vacations, workshops, summer school, travel, jobs, schedules
- Weekends
- What do you do on Friday nights?
- Where are the hot spots?

Clubs & Organizations

- As a student leader, I have to...
- At meetings, we...
- Banquets
- Boys and Girls State
- Career-related clubs
- Celebrations and parties
- Club traditions
- Competitions
- Entertainment: students who perform
- Everything was going well until...
- Field trips
- Fundraisers
- Goodwill projects, community projects
- I joined this club because...
- If I could invent a club, it would be...
- Student representatives to community organizations
- The greatest part of being in a club is...
- The most difficult task our club faces is...
- This club will help me later in life because...
- Ways to get involved
- Youth groups: 4-H, Y-Teens, Junioresettes

Sports

- Athlete superstitions
- Athletes keeping good grades
- Booster Club
- Coaches and techniques
- College recruiting
- Crosstown rivals
- Exercising
- Fans
- Injuries
- Intramurals
- Local athletic teams
- Local press coverage of school athletes
- Locker room: before the game, at halftime, after the game
- Mascots
- Playoffs

- Practices
- Sideline personnel: managers, trainers, waterboys, statisticians
- Sports banquets and end-of-the-season celebrations
- Student athletic idols
- Warming up for the game
- Who you cheer for: college and pro teams

Academics

- Academic awards
- Academic Decathlon
- Academic stereotypes
- Being bilingual
- Budgeting time
- Careers
- Classes traditionally taken by boys which girls enroll in and visa versa
- College: classes taken by high school students, college night, preparation for college, tuition
- Competitions in the classroom
- Computers: Have your own? Mac vs PC? Work or play? How many hours a day?
- Counseling
- Deadlines
- Definitions of academic success/failure
- Distance learning/online classes
- English as a second language
- Excuses
- Field trips
- Foreign exchange program
- Grades: making an A, parental pressure, peer pressure, consequences
- Graduation: measuring for caps and gowns, announcements, valedictorian and speakers, practices, jitters, alumni who attend, grad night
- Home economics
- Homework: how long students spend on it each day
- Honors classes
- Ideal teacher (definition of)
- Labs
- Long term projects: How do you approach them? When do you finish? Prefer or abhor them?
- Motivation
- Nervousness before a speech
- Portfolios: students who must submit a collection of their work for a grade
- Pressure and stress
- Procrastination
- Report cards
- Scholarships
- School play: tryouts, rehearsals, set construction, stage crews
- Students' future plans
- Studying: do you need silence or study to music? Work for hours at a time or need a break? At a desk or on the couch?
- Summer training: yearbook workshop, band camp, debate camp, intensive language training
- Test prep classes and services
- Vocational classes